A FULL and PARTICULAR

RELATION

Of the Most Horrid and Barbarous

MURTHER,

Which was COMMITTED

By Mr. **James Shelben**, Distiller,

On *Sunday* last, being the 22d. Instant,

Between the Hours of Ten and Eleven at Night, on the Body of Mrs. *Bartlet*, by Knocking her on the Head with a Hammer and Fire Fork, and afterwards Cutting her Throat.

Also Dangerously Wounding one Mrs. *Chethen*; With the manner of Taking Mr. *Shelben*, his *Examination* before the *Justice*, *Confession*, *Commitment* to *Newgate*, and his *Behaviour*, &c. 23. *March*. 1691.

Licensed according to Order, March 24th 1691.

IN *Lemon-street* in *Goodman's Fields*, there lately lived one Mrs. *Bartlet*, who kept a Private Strongwater-shop, otherwise a Bawdy-house; being of very ill Fame among her Neighbours, although she carried her Concerns very Privately.

One Mr. *James Shelben* a Distiller used to frequent her House often, she taking her Brandy's of him: And Yesterday, being *Sunday*, he paid her a Visit, and stay'd there most part of the Day till Ten a Clock at Night; during which time, as himself confesseth, he paid fourteen Shillings for one Reckoning. About the Hours of Ten and Eleven, being as is supposed, very much in Drink, he took an opportunity to Seize on Mrs. *Bartlet*, and with an Hammer Knock'd her down, and then took a short spudded Knife that belonged to the House, and cut her the said Mrs. *Bartlet's* Throat; then turning to one Mrs. *Chethen* (who was the only Person that was in the House, besides the two before-mentioned) designing to use her in the same manner; she continued to cry out *Murther*, &c. as she did upon his first Seizing of Mrs. *Bartlet*, and being a pretty strong Woman, Opposed him in a great measure, until the Watch came in; yet she is not withstanding very much Hurt.

Upon the approach of the Watch, Mr. *Shelbon* endeavoured to make his escape, by the back Part of the House, over the Garden Pales, but was taken in the Attempt, and secured all Night in the *Watch-house*, which is not above Twenty Yards from the House where the Murder was Committed; this Morning the Constable and Watch carried him before Justice *Osbourn*, where being come and Examined, he could not be brought to confess the Murder, nor at the same time did he absolutely deny it, only he said he was in drink, having spent a great deal of Money there that day, and so could not tell what he did, his Cloaths was all be-sprinkled with the Deceaseds Blood, and the Hammer, Fire-fork, and Knife, with which he killed the one, and wounded the other, were produced: After which, about the hour of Eleven, he was, by the said Justice *Osbourn* Committed to *Newgate*, in order to receive the just reward of so Barbarous an Act. It's generally said that this Gentleman, is the same Person, that Murdered the People at the *Kentish* Coffee-House at *Ratcliff*, for there coming a Person this Morning to the *Watch-house* to see Mr. *Shelben*, out of Curiosity, affirmed him to be the same Person, knowing him again both by his Physiognomy, and the Habit that he was in. This Mr. *Shelben* is of a very good Family, he served his Apprentiship at the *Still* by *Swan-Alley* in the *Minories*, he afterwards lived in *Bishops-gate-street*, and of late keeping a Strong Water-shop at *Cherry-Garden* Stairs; he has a Wife and four Children, and his Wife big ready to lye down with the fifth. The Reasons which moved him to commit this most Barbarous Murther, is not certainly known, tho' Variously Discoursed on.

Mr. *Bartlet*, the Deceased's late Husband is now in His Majesties Service at Sea, and but this very Morning there came a Bill or Ticket from him, for her to receive Seven Pounds, which is stopped by the Church-wardens of the Parish.

It's very Remarkable, that this is now no less than the fifth Murther that has been committed within these six Months past, in five several B----Houses, or Houses of Ill Fame, in and about *London*.

Printed for *Alex. Milburn*, in the *Little Old-Baily*.